

DR 69-28 - Metropolitan Clearing-house Review - Wichita Cowskin Creek Parkland Acquisition Proposal.

ACTION

DATE

12-21

COMMITTEE

M.A.P.C.

B.C.C./B. CO. C.

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503 CITY BUILDING ANNEX, 104 SOUTH MAIN
CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS 67202

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS FORESTRY RECREATION AIRPORT

October 30, 1969

Mr. Robert Lakin, Acting Director
Wichita Sedgwick County Regional
Planning Commission
City Building Annex
104 South Main Street
Wichita, Kansas 67202

Dear Mr. Lakin:

The Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Wichita, as applicant agency, has filed an "Application for Grant to Acquire Open Space Land," with the Department of Housing and Urban Development, dated September 22, 1969, and titled, "Kruckenberg, Millard, Rumsey and Dickerson Tracts," and which has subsequently been assigned Project No. Kans-OSA-20, Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Wichita, Kansas.

We were advised on October 3, 1969, that your office had been designated as the Metropolitan Planning and Development Clearinghouse in compliance with the provisions of Attachment A, Part I of Bureau of the Budget Circular A-95. Although prior notification was not possible, we submit herewith a summary description of the project for which assistance is being sought.

(1) Identity of applicant agency:

The Board of Park Commissioners of the City of Wichita, Kansas.

(2) The geographic location of the project to be assisted:

The W 1/2 of SE 1/4 and E 1/2 of SW 1/4 of Section 32, Township 27 South, Range 1 West of the Sixth Principal Meridian, Sedgwick County, Kansas.

(3) A brief description of the proposed project by type, purpose, general size or scale, estimated cost, beneficiaries, or other characteristics which will enable the Clearinghouse to identify agencies of state or local government having plans, programs, or projects that might be affected by the proposed project:

Mr. Robert Lakin, Acting Director
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The proposed tracts of land under consideration in this application are part of a total plan for the development of a large semi-regional park and recreational area originally delineated in 1966 comprising approximately 850+ acres on the western edge of the Wichita urbanized area. The total concept is reflected in Exhibit No. 1 included under this Code No. OS-103.

As indicated in the Exhibit, a majority of this property is now in public ownership. Municipal Airport property comprises approximately 320 acres of the total envisioned site. Of the 320 acres of Airport property, approximately 160 acres are currently being devoted to the construction of an 18 hole regulation golf course complete with club house, landscaping, grassgreens and fairways, lakes and irrigation system. The facility is anticipated to open in the Spring of 1970. Other areas designated in public ownership include the Wood Tract (Kans. OSA-4) comprising 158.3 acres, and the Schmidt Tract (Kans. OSA-10) of 153 acres for which contracts with the Federal government for \$80,000.00 and \$78,050.00 grants respectively have been executed by the Wichita Board of Park Commissioners, and the Branson Tract of 12 acres which is in Park Board ownership. Also indicated is the area covered by the tracts of land to which this application applies comprising approximately 160 acres. The remaining property (approximately 40 acres) is in private ownership which will hopefully be acquired at a future date.

The authorizations for the \$80,000.00 and the \$78,050.00 grants by the Federal Government for the purchase of the Wood tract and the Schmidt tract has stimulated greater interest in an accelerated open space acquisition and development program for the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan Area. The past purchases of the Brooks Tract (Kans. OSA-5), Woodlawn and Boston Tract, (Kans. OSA-6), Bruce Tract (Kans. OSA-9); the current purchase of the Sedgwick County park and zoo site (Kans. OSA-15) and the subsequent purchase of the Kruckenberg, Millard, Rumsey and Dickerson Tracts gives good indication of this acceleration.

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The area covered by these tracts, as indicated by the "Proposed Park Development" plan (Exhibit No. 1), will be an integral part of a larger area containing facilities for camping, picnicking, golfing and other outdoor sports activities. The purchase of these properties is necessary to tie together those properties existing in public ownership and for the most part complete the assemblance of properties for a large semi-regional park for the Wichita-Sedgwick County Metropolitan area as originally proposed in the adopted "Open Space, Parks and Recreation Plan" and initially implemented with the purchase of the Wood Tract (Application No. Kans. OSA-4). After acquisition, the land will be kept in its natural state except for the necessary construction of access roads, parking areas and open type recreational facilities. A lake for outdoor recreational purposes may be added in the future. In the meantime, the natural beauty of the streamway existing on the property will be preserved and made accessible to the general public.

When completely developed, the park and recreational area will contain open space facilities which will serve the entire region and hopefully will attract out-of-state tourists traveling on U.S. Highway 54 adjoining the site on the north.

At present there are a few farm structures existing on the Kruckenberg and Millard portions of the site which the Wichita Board of Park Commissioners does not intend to make use of. They most likely will be disposed of by bid for their removal and/or demolition.

The estimated cost of this project is \$208,714.00.

(4) The Federal program and agency under which assistance will be sought:

The Open Space Program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(5) The estimated date by which time the applicant expects to formally file an application:

Mr. Robert Lakin, Acting Director
October 30, 1969

Application has already been filed, and was filed prior to the effective date of Bureau of the Budget Circular A-95 and prior to designation of a Metropolitan Planning and Development Clearinghouse.

While it is unclear as to whether or not this application is subject to compliance with provisions of Attachment A, Part I of Bureau of the Budget Circular A-95, we are nevertheless submitting the summary description for your consideration since we do not wish to have any delays with our application.

Very truly yours,

BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS

Thomas P. Allen, Jr.
Thomas P. Allen, Jr.
Deputy Director of Parks
and Recreation

TPA/lrb